



AUSSIE ROCK ICON RUSSELL MORRIS SET FOR PARKES WALL OF FAME

Australian rocker, and #1 selling Platinum artist **Russell Morris** will be inducted to the **Parkes Elvis™ Festival (Wednesday 9 January – Sunday 13 January 2019)** Wall of Fame on **Wednesday 9 January, 2019**. *The Real Thing* singer is being honoured as not only a pioneer of the Australian music industry, but a continued force that is sure to set next year's Festival off to a rockin' start.

To celebrate this achievement, Russell will perform an intimate 60 minute show for Festival fans, teaming up with guitarist Pete Robinson at the Parkes Services Club. (Tickets [HERE](#)). The master musician will delight the audience in unmistakable Russell Morris style, stirring nostalgia in an electric atmosphere, and will see Russell's legacy set in stone for future Festival goers to enjoy.

Festival Director, Cathy Treasure said, "Russell is a legend of the Australian music industry and we can't wait to honour his more than 50 year career".

"The best part, *The Real Thing* has a link to Parkes. It featured prominently in the Australian movie, *The Dish*, set in Parkes during the historic first Apollo moon landing. We think it's quite fitting that Russell will perform in Parkes on the 9th of January 2019, exactly 50 years to the day since Armstrong, Aldrin and Collins were announced as the Apollo 11 crew (9 January 1969)."

Russell shot to fame in the band **Somebody's Image** that had its first top 20 hit in 1968 with *Hide & Seek*. He quickly caught the eye of Ian 'Molly' Meldrum, who as his manager/producer, guided Russell to pursue a solo career in September 1968.

1969 saw Molly and Russell team up to release the #1 psychedelic hit, *The Real Thing*, which received international acclaim and topped charts in USA, and continues to be play on commercial radio across the Australia.

Russell continues to perform after 53 years in the music industry and still tours nationally and internationally. Having such an illustrious career has seen him perform with industry legends such as **Cher, The Bee Gees, Linda Ronstadt** and **The Beach Boys**.

Russell's induction into the Elvis Wall of Fame and performance at the 2019 Parkes Elvis Festival will be one of the most unique experiences audiences can enjoy, where fans will truly get to soak up the man behind the music.

Tickets to all Parkes Elvis Festival shows, across many venues, are available to purchase online, making booking your entire five day Elvis extravaganza a breeze.

For all programming and ticketing information, visit www.parkeselvisfestival.com.au

EVENT NAME: Parkes Elvis Festival
DATES: 9-13 January 2019
THEME: All Shook Up - celebrating all things '50s
WEBSITE: www.parkeselvisfestival.com.au
LOCATION: Parkes, NSW, Australia



EDITORS NOTES

Parkes Elvis Festival

Parkes Elvis Festival is held annually in the second week of January in Parkes, New South Wales, coinciding with the birthday of Elvis Presley. Parkes has a population of 12,000 and is located 365 kilometres west of Sydney. In January 2018 over 26,500 visitors attended the Festival, more than doubling Parkes' population.

The Festival began in January 1993 as a small birthday party for the local newspaper editor. It was so much fun they decided to do it again - and again! Over the following 10 years additional events were added and it became a two-day Festival. With the vision and effort of the voluntary organising committee as well as the support of Parkes Shire Council, the Festival exploded in popularity and word quickly spread across Australia of the fun and unique event in regional NSW.

Following its tremendous success, in 2014 the Festival transitioned management to Parkes Shire Council under a Section 355 Festival Committee. The Festival now regularly attracts visitors from all around Australia and stages more than 150 events annually. In January 2015, Parkes Elvis Festival was officially endorsed by Elvis Presley Enterprises, Inc., the trustees of the estate of Elvis Presley. Official endorsement elevates Parkes Elvis Festival to the ranks of premiere Elvis tribute festivals in the world.

Parkes Elvis Festival is supported by the NSW Government via its tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW.



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